

**Security Council**

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**Report of the Secretary-General on developments in
Guinea-Bissau and on the activities of the United Nations
Peacebuilding Support Office in Guinea-Bissau****I. Introduction**

1. The present report is submitted pursuant to paragraph 14 of Security Council resolution 1233 (1999), by which the Council requested me to keep it regularly informed of and to submit a report on developments in Guinea-Bissau and on the activities of the United Nations Peacebuilding Support Office in Guinea-Bissau (UNOGBIS). Subsequently, in paragraph 11 of its resolution 1580 (2004), the Council requested me to submit a written report to it every three months.

2. The present report focuses on developments since my last report dated 12 September 2005 (S/2005/575), in particular on the post-electoral political tensions leading to the recent change in Government in Guinea-Bissau.

II. Political developments

3. During the reporting period, the political situation in the country remained strained. The candidate of the African Party for the Independence of Guinea-Bissau and Cape Verde (PAIGC), Malam Bacai Sanhá, continued to reject the results of the July 2005 presidential elections, which had given victory to João Bernardo Vieira, despite the fact that the Supreme Court of Justice, on 26 August 2005, found that there were "insufficient judicial elements" to rule on the request of the Party that the poll results be annulled. The stalling of the inauguration of the President-elect, which was finally held on 1 October 2005, raised internal tensions further and sent worrying signals to the country's external partners.

4. Together with the leaders of the African Union, the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), the Community of Portuguese-Speaking Countries and other international partners of Guinea-Bissau, I appealed to the country's leaders to resolve their differences through dialogue. On 21 September 2005, during my meeting with Prime Minister Carlos Gomes Júnior in the margins of the meetings of the sixtieth session of the General Assembly, I stressed the view that the timely organization of the inauguration of the President-elect would help restore domestic and international confidence in the political process in Guinea-Bissau,



which, in turn, could enhance the climate for the resumption of international assistance.

5. On 1 October 2005, João Bernardo Vieira was sworn in as the new President of Guinea-Bissau, marking the formal end of the transitional period the country had been undergoing since the coup d'état of 14 September 2003. The inauguration of President Vieira and his inaugural pledge to promote national reconciliation and to ensure respect for the rule of law engendered high expectations among the people of Guinea-Bissau, anxious to see a marked improvement in their living conditions.

6. However, in the light of the deep divisions that marked the July 2005 presidential elections, the political class of Guinea-Bissau remained highly polarized, resulting in a realignment of political forces in parliament caused essentially by splits within the governing Party. The rift in PAIGC arose over support by a faction of the party for the independent electoral campaign of President Vieira and deepened further when the party leadership, headed by the former Prime Minister, Carlos Gomes Júnior, sought to maintain the sanctions applied against 14 PAIGC parliamentarians who had backed the Vieira campaign. The 14 included the first Vice-President of PAIGC, Aristides Gomes, who, along with other members of the group of 14 suspended PAIGC parliamentarians and other parties and individuals supporting President Vieira, formed the "Forum for the Convergence of Development", in an attempt to create a new majority in parliament.

7. Shortly after President Vieira took office on 1 October 2005, he and Prime Minister Carlos Gomes Júnior issued public statements of their willingness to work together, signalling to the nation and to the international community a commitment to institutional cohabitation. However, relations between them remained difficult, leading to a decision by the President, following consultations with the reinstated Council of State and with various political parties, civil society and trade union leaders, to issue a decree on 28 October 2005 dismissing the Government. Among the reasons the President cited were continuing tensions between the organs of State sovereignty which, according to him, hampered the smooth functioning of State institutions and weakened the Government's capacity to pay salaries or to survive in parliament. That decision was, however, denounced by PAIGC as "arbitrary and unconstitutional".

8. Subsequently, on 2 November 2005, President Vieira issued another decree appointing Aristides Gomes as Prime Minister, an action that prompted further adverse reaction from the PAIGC leadership who contested that decision in the Supreme Court of Justice, insisting that a Prime Minister should come from PAIGC, as the party with the majority in parliament. The Court's ruling is still awaited.

9. On 9 November 2005, President Vieira named a new Government, also by decree. The team comprised eight ministers from PAIGC, including those responsible for foreign affairs, defence, economy and fisheries, and two secretaries of state, with four of them coming from the suspended 14 PAIGC parliamentarians loyal to the President. The Party for Social Renewal (the party of former President Kumba Yalá) was given six ministries, including the Ministry of the Interior, and four secretaries of state. Two women were appointed ministers, as against seven in the last Government. Aware of the concern of the international community regarding economic and financial transparency, Prime Minister Aristides Gomes retained the Minister responsible for the economy from the last Government and pledged to continue the financial and economic reform policies of the outgoing Government.

assessed positively by donors. The new Government was expected to present its programme and the 2006 budget to the regular month-long parliamentary session, which began on 21 November 2005. It should be noted that neither the supporters of President Vieira nor his opponents can possibly muster more than a slim majority in the National Assembly.

10. During the electoral process, UNOGBIS used its good offices, often in tandem with ECOWAS, to help calm tensions. Looking beyond the transitional period, and in keeping with the provisions of the comprehensive peacebuilding strategy outlined in my previous report (S/2005/575), which was supported by the Security Council when it discussed the report on 22 September 2005, UNOGBIS has focused on helping to develop self-sustaining national peacebuilding mechanisms.

11. To help strengthen national conflict prevention and management, UNOGBIS has promoted collaborative relations with local and international non-governmental organizations, including the Geneva-based War-torn Societies Project (WSP-International) and the National Institute of Studies and Research of Guinea-Bissau, which have completed a joint project proposal for a two-year research programme focusing on identifying the main sources of tension and the causes of conflict. In addition, UNOGBIS plans to organize a programme of training in conflict resolution and negotiation skills for parliamentarians, in partnership with the Dutch development organization SNV Netherlands Development Organization.

12. Members of the Security Council will recall that in my report of 12 September 2005 (S/2005/575) I outlined several proposals on the role of UNOGBIS in the consolidation of peace and stability in Guinea-Bissau in the post-transitional period.

13. President Vieira, in his letter addressed to me dated 21 November 2005, stressed that with the peaceful conclusion of the political transition and the full restoration of constitutional order, an important element of the UNOGBIS mandate had been achieved. He observed, however, that the Office still had a decisive role to play in a number of key areas for the consolidation of lasting peace and stability in Guinea-Bissau, including the reform of the security sector, the mobilization of political support and financial resources to strengthen the capacity of the organs of the State, the enhancement of political dialogue and the promotion of respect for the rule of law and human rights. The President also expressed support for the proposals I had put forward in my report to the Council in September 2005 designed to adjust the UNOGBIS mandate to focus on post-transitional challenges. Finally, the President informed me that, following consultations with the Government, he had decided to request an extension of the mandate of UNOGBIS for an additional year, until 31 December 2006.

III. Economic and social aspects

14. The economic and financial situation in Guinea-Bissau remains grave. On 29 October 2005, a mission of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) was scheduled to begin its visit to discuss an economic and financial programme for 2006 under the IMF emergency post-conflict assistance policy, but the change of Government resulted in the cancellation of that mission and an indefinite postponement of the round table, with the Bretton Woods institutions indicating that they would want to be assured of the continuation of the economic reforms and transparency initiated under the previous Government before pledging assistance.

15. Meanwhile, financial measures undertaken by the outgoing Government allowed for the payment of wages from July to September 2005. However, the uncertainty over the timing of the disbursement of 2005 budgetary support and low revenue projections until the next cashew harvesting season in April-May 2006 make the build-up of further salary arrears, which are already rising, a worrying possibility.

16. The beginning of the new school year in October 2005 was delayed due to Government difficulties in meeting salary commitments. In November 2005, State schools remained closed, as teachers continued to demand payment of salary arrears. Meanwhile, the cost of living continues to rise, including price increases for essential goods and commodities.

17. The country has been grappling with a cholera epidemic since mid-June, with 22,000 cases and 374 deaths reported. Although the epidemic appears to have peaked, transmission rate among the vulnerable population remains high. Thus the World Health Organization (WHO), the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and the World Food Programme have provided assistance to the Ministry of Health in implementing preparedness and response measures. As nearly all the health structures in the country have been mobilized to fight the epidemic, to the detriment of other health-related needs, about \$1.7 million is required to strengthen surveillance, treatment, public information and communication. In November 2005, WHO and UNICEF also launched a nationwide polio immunization campaign within the framework of their regional programmes.

IV. Military and security aspects

18. UNOGBIS continues to encourage and support national initiatives to undertake security sector reform. To that end, a security sector development advisory team from the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland visited Guinea-Bissau on a fact-finding mission from 10 to 13 October 2005 to examine how the authorities might be assisted in formulating a road map for a comprehensive and credible security sector reform programme. The team also included a military expert from the European Union.

19. The mission also assessed the level of understanding and commitment to security sector reform among key stakeholders as well as the capacity of national authorities to manage and deliver such reform. The initial findings, which have been shared with the Government, stressed the long-term nature of the proposed reform. They also warned against high expectation of short-term gains and a piecemeal approach, highlighting the need for a coordinated strategy to deal with the multiple problems. A follow-up mission is scheduled to take place in early 2006.

20. In view of the threat posed to the security of the country by the proliferation of small arms in Guinea-Bissau, a pilot programme on small arms collection and destruction, designed within the framework of the United Nations Coordinating Action on Small Arms mechanism, was elaborated in consultation with the former Government and was to have been launched in November 2005, but had to be postponed due to the change of Government to allow the new authorities to examine it.

21. There has been further progress in demining. A total of 4,943 stockpiled anti-personnel mines were destroyed at a ceremony organized by the National Mine Action Coordination Authority in October 2005, which completed the obligations of the country under article 4 of the Ottawa Convention on Landmines: from January to September 2005, the Coordination Authority, through its national partners, Humaid and Lutcam, demined 81,890 square metres and removed 26,706 unexploded ordnance, 23 anti-personnel mines and 3 anti-tank mines. The operations were made possible by funding from Canada, the European Union, Germany, the Netherlands, the United Kingdom and the United States of America.

22. There is growing concern over increased crime and insecurity, as demonstrated by the closure of Catholic schools, parishes and medical centres on 8 November 2005, demanding that the police fulfil their role in maintaining law and order. However, police operations continue to be hampered by inadequate resources. In particular, there is rising concern that Guinea-Bissau is increasingly being used as a transit point for drug trafficking between South America and Europe, as evidenced by the growing number of narcotics seizures. Efforts are underway to reschedule an assessment mission to Guinea-Bissau by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to provide technical assistance to law enforcement officers, which was planned for November 2005 but was postponed due to the change in Government.

V. Human rights aspects

23. UNOGBIS has continued to promote the respect for rule of law and human rights. To facilitate more effective investigation and prosecution of civil and criminal cases, the Office has organized training for magistrates and law enforcement officers funded by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR). UNOGBIS has also started a series of seminars for magistrates from the Office of the Attorney-General on the role and responsibility of the prosecutor.

24. In another initiative, UNOGBIS, working with the national programme to fight HIV/AIDS and the United Nations coordination expert on HIV/AIDS, has organized 34 training sessions for the armed forces and border guards. The objective of the human rights component of those sessions was to stress that prevention can only be effective in an environment where the rights of women and the right to non-discrimination of people living with HIV/AIDS are fully respected. UNOGBIS also continues to assist the national authorities in drafting national legislation on the prevention, treatment and control of HIV/AIDS.

VI. Observations and recommendations

25. With the swearing in of President Vieira on 1 October 2005, the country began to move away from the divisions of the past towards a more harmonious and constructive future. Regrettably, political tensions along personality and party lines have continued to cast a shadow on the prospects for stability in Guinea-Bissau. Unless overcome peacefully, this polarization could frustrate the country's post-electoral expectations for a more promising future. Indeed, the lingering political instability not only hampers further democratic progress, but also drives donors to

withhold the assistance the country urgently needs to meet its massive reconstruction and development challenges.

26. I am encouraged, however, that these differences are being addressed peacefully, through the proper constitutional channels, which is an important step forward in building a culture of respect for the rule of law. I call upon all the political actors and the society at large to respect the ruling of the Supreme Court, once it is rendered, on the case filed over the constitutionality of the President's recent Government changes. I also urge political leaders to strive for inclusive dialogue to resolve their differences, mindful of the population's desire to move forward in building a better life for themselves and for their country as a whole.

27. I wish to reiterate the importance of continued engagement by the international community to assist Guinea-Bissau. The support of the Security Council, the Economic and Social Council Ad Hoc Advisory Group on Guinea-Bissau and the international community as a whole was instrumental in bringing the transitional process to a peaceful and successful conclusion. Continued support, especially economic and financial assistance, is particularly important if the ongoing stabilization effort to consolidate peace and prevent violence is to succeed.

28. Such financial support is especially vital in the critical domain of security sector reform. Given the wide range of complex issues, coordination and a division of labour among donors are also essential to ensure the cost effective utilization of international assistance.

29. I encourage the new authorities to continue with the economic and political governance policies that have guided the country for the past two years so that preparations for the holding of the donor round table conference can be completed as soon as possible.

30. Finally, I would like to pay tribute to the staff of UNOGBIS, led by João Bernardo Honwana, my Representative in Guinea-Bissau, and to the entire United Nations country team for their constructive contribution towards the peaceful completion of the transitional process in Guinea-Bissau and the full return of constitutional order.



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Security Council**

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**General Assembly
Sixtieth session
Agenda item 24
Consequences of the Iraqi occupation of
and aggression against Kuwait**

**Security Council
Sixtieth year**

**Letter dated 2 December 2005 from the Permanent
Representative of Turkey to the United Nations
addressed to the Secretary-General**

I have the honour to transmit herewith a letter dated 2 December 2005, addressed to you by Abdullah Gül, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Turkey (see annex).

I would be grateful if the text of the present letter and its annex could be circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 24, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Baki Ilkin
Ambassador
Permanent Representative



**Annex to the letter dated 2 December 2005 from the
Permanent Representative of Turkey to the United Nations
addressed to the Secretary-General**

The constitutional referendum concluded, Iraq is nearing yet another crucial phase of its political transition. With the general elections in sight, I thought it might be useful to share some observations with Your Excellency.

I agree with your view that "the people of Iraq have braved difficult conditions and the threat of violence to exercise their right to vote", and that "the referendum has been an important opportunity for the Iraqi people to express their political choices".

The compromise reached shortly before the referendum opened the possibility for further improvement of the new Constitution after the elections. This has been a welcome move on the part of the political leadership of Iraq that provided additional time and room for the new Iraqi Parliament that will emerge from the 15 December elections to tackle this vital issue.

I believe the current situation calls for closer cooperation within the international community. Turkey remains firmly committed to preservation of Iraq's unity and territorial integrity through a peaceful, democratic and stable Government.

The United Nations, through the leadership of Your Excellency and your Special Representative, has been able to guide the process towards democratic governance in Iraq until now with limited capabilities and under most difficult circumstances.

United Nations involvement in the period ahead will become even more important. The 15 December elections can be the turning point in legitimizing the political transformation in the minds of each and every segment of Iraqi society, if prepared and conducted successfully.

As you have rightly said, the willingness of the United Nations to work in partnership with the Government to assist the Iraqi people in whatever way possible remains a key element for the success of the process. This, we believe, requires a more robust and extensive United Nations presence in all phases of the forthcoming elections, including the effective monitoring of the entire process. This expected United Nations effort surely needs to be supported by the United Nations members and other international organizations, which we are simultaneously calling for. The international community must do everything within its power to avoid the recurrence of the manipulations and irregularities which marred the previous two ballotings in Iraq this year and to help ensure that, at long last, nobody will feel disenfranchised from the process.

Kirkuk remains a divisive issue which has the potential to turn into a serious source of instability and conflict. The future parliament of Iraq will have to address this sensitive issue. We believe United Nations involvement in the last phase of the Iraqi political transition needs to include Kirkuk. The establishment of a United Nations office in that city would be extremely useful.

The ability of the United Nations to deliver on these expectations will bestow on the emerging constitutional statehood in Iraq the direly needed legitimacy which, over time, will also help end violence.

(Signed) Abdullah Gül



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**General Assembly
Sixtieth session**

Agenda items 17, 96, 97, 108, 118 and 120

**The situation in Afghanistan and its implications
for international peace and security**

Prevention of an arms race in outer space

General and complete disarmament

Measures to eliminate international terrorism

United Nations reform: measures and proposals

Follow-up to the outcome of the Millennium Summit

**Security Council
Sixtieth year**

**Letter dated 2 December 2005 from the Permanent
Representative of the Russian Federation to the
United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General**

I have the honour to transmit the text of the Declaration of the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the member States of the Collective Security Treaty Organization (CSTO), adopted in Moscow on 30 November 2005 at the meeting of the Council of CSTO Ministers for Foreign Affairs, on the Outcome of the United Nations World Summit held in New York in September 2005 (see annex).

I should be grateful if this letter and its annex could be circulated as a document of the Security Council and of the General Assembly under agenda items 17, 96, 97, 108, 118 and 120 of the sixtieth session.

(Signed) Andrey Denisov



**Annex to the letter dated 2 December 2005 from the
Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation to
the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General**

**Declaration on the 2005 World Summit Outcome by the
Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the member States of
the Collective Security Treaty Organization**

The member States of the Collective Security Treaty Organization (CSTO) reaffirm their commitment to the ideals of the United Nations, which over six decades has established its position as an all-embracing and universal international organization.

The constructive proposals put forward at the World Summit in September this year constitute a positive foundation for continuing the process of United Nations reform on the basis of the widest possible agreement, taking due account of the interests of Member States.

We consider that reform of United Nations structures and mechanisms should enhance the effectiveness of the Organization's work, especially in such priority areas as peacemaking and peacekeeping throughout the world, non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, efforts to combat terrorism, xenophobia and religious extremism, illicit trafficking in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances and their precursors, organized crime, illegal migration and trafficking in persons.

The Summit emphasized that international terrorism must be opposed by the entire world community, with the United Nations playing an active coordinating role. An important step was taken with the adoption of Security Council resolution 1624 (2005), which stated that not only terrorists themselves, together with those supporting and funding them, acted outside the law, but also the instigators of terrorist acts. We attach great significance to the entry into force as soon as possible of the International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism and the achievement of final agreement on the draft comprehensive convention on international terrorism and call on States Members of the United Nations that have not yet done so to sign the international legal instruments adopted by the United Nations relating to the fight against terrorism. We welcome the efforts of the United Nations Security Council Counter-Terrorism Committee to set up a system providing assistance in the fight against terrorism and affirm the willingness of our States to cooperate with the Committee in every way in the global struggle against terrorism that it is coordinating.

We consider that, in view of the serious situation caused by the sharp increase in drug trafficking worldwide, there is an increasingly urgent need to establish, under United Nations auspices, an effective global anti-drug partnership, which should make every effort to set up security zones along the Afghan border. The CSTO member States intend to participate in such efforts, in accordance with the Plan of measures for the coordination of the activities of CSTO member States to manage the post-conflict reconstruction of Afghanistan.

We support United Nations efforts to strengthen peacemaking potential and develop preventive diplomacy. Once again, we confirm the leadership and guiding role of the United Nations in questions of international peacemaking and the

maintenance of global peace. We welcome the proposed establishment of a peacebuilding commission as an intergovernmental advisory body to provide assistance and mobilize support for countries in a post-conflict situation.

Although disarmament and non-proliferation issues were not addressed in the Outcome owing to differences in approach among United Nations Member States, we note that statements were made at the 2005 Summit urging that the disarmament and non-proliferation regimes should be strengthened and calling on States to become party to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction and the Convention on the Prohibition on the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction and to maintain the moratorium on nuclear weapons testing pending the entry into force of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty. The CSTO member States are in favour of prohibiting the development and manufacture of new types and systems of weapons of mass destruction and their delivery systems. We are in favour of prohibiting the deployment of weapons in space, on the basis of the relevant international, legally binding agreements, and we support the development of measures to ensure transparency and greater trust in space activities.

We must strengthen international cooperation to deal with the consequences of natural disasters and to improve capacity for the prevention of natural and man-made disasters.

We consider it advisable to promote various forms of closer cooperation between the United Nations and regional organizations, including regular involvement of such organizations in the work of the Security Council and other United Nations bodies, including the peacebuilding commission currently in the process of formation. We support the creation of a standing committee to coordinate activities by the United Nations and regional organizations aimed at solving the most serious international problems.

We are convinced that implementation of the Summit Outcome will serve to strengthen global and regional stability and security. The CSTO member States will, for their part, work hard to attain that goal.

Moscow, 30 November 2005

**General Assembly
Security Council**

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General Assembly
Sixtieth session
Agenda item 14
The situation in the Middle East

Security Council
Sixtieth year

**Identical letters dated 5 December 2005 from the Chargé
d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Lebanon to the
United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and
the President of the Security Council**

On instructions from my Government, I transmit to you herewith a detailed statistical table showing the number of Israeli violations of Lebanese sovereignty which occurred during November 2005, i.e., a total of 151 violations (see annex).

These violations are in contravention of the relevant Security Council resolutions, the latest of which is resolution 1614 (2005), and go against the Secretary-General's repeated calls for their cessation, most recently in his report S/2005/460 of 20 July 2005. Lebanon counts on the United Nations to compel Israel to desist from those violations, which constitute a threat to international peace and security, and holds Israel responsible for any consequences to which those acts may give rise.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the General Assembly under agenda item 14 and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Ibrahim Assaf
Chargé d'affaires a.i.



**Annex to the identical letters dated 5 December 2005 from
the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Lebanon
to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and
the President of the Security Council**

**Statistical table showing Israeli violations of Lebanese sovereignty during
November 2005**

				<i>Land violations</i>				<i>Total violations</i>
<i>Air violations</i>				<i>Sea violations</i>	<i>Military acts of aggression</i>	<i>Field violations</i>	<i>Breaches</i>	
<i>Military jet</i>	<i>Reconnaissance</i>	<i>Helicopter</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Crossing of territorial waters, artillery fire and shooting of flares and firebombs over territorial waters</i>	<i>Air raids, artillery shelling, shelling of military positions and important posts, attacks on and killing of civilians</i>	<i>Gunfire, shooting of flares, dropping of artillery missiles, infiltration and crossing of international borders</i>	<i>Threats and displaying of weapons, bulldozing of soil, placing of barbed wire and setting up of installations inside Lebanese territory</i>	
31	29	19	79	25	19	18	10	151

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General Assembly
Sixtieth session
Agenda items 14 and 108**Security Council**
Sixtieth year**The situation in the Middle East****Measures to eliminate international terrorism****Identical letters dated 5 December 2005 from the Permanent
Representative of Israel to the United Nations addressed
to the Secretary-General and the President of the
Security Council**

I am writing in order to draw your attention to a most recent attack perpetrated against the citizens of Israel — the continual firing of Kassam rocket and mortar shells.

On 3-4 December 2005, the terrorist organization al-Aqsa Martyrs Brigade assaulted Israel with Kassam artillery rocket and mortar shells, which landed in the town of Nativ Ha'asara in the southern Negev and resulted in damage to community property. Kassam rockets landed near the Israeli town of Sderot, in an avocado orchard in the western Negev and in another open field in the western Negev. It should be noted that the Kassam attacks come only one day after Israel took steps to ease travel and work permit restrictions in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip. In response to the latest Kassam attacks and in an act of self-defence, Israel opened fire at the sources of the rocket fire and launched a strike against an office in Gaza City that is used to coordinate terrorist activities.

Since Israel's disengagement from the Gaza Strip and parts of the West Bank in August 2005, Palestinian terrorists have fired more than 170 Kassam rocket and mortar shells at Israel.

What is particularly troubling with the latest attacks is that the terrorist organization that perpetrated them, al-Aqsa Martyrs Brigade, is affiliated with Palestinian Authority President Mahmoud Abbas's very own Fatah movement. The Palestinian Authority is obligated by the Road Map to dismantle terrorist organizations and eliminate the terrorist infrastructure. Yet as these terrorist attacks signify, the Palestinian Authority passively allows its cohorts to perpetrate acts of violence against Israel.



Excellency, only when the Palestinian Authority dismantles terrorist groups will peace become possible. Israel recognizes that this represents a difficult course of action. Yet it is only through such action that the parties to the conflict will be able to advance in the path of peace. Otherwise all international efforts, including those of the United Nations, will continue to be in vain.

I submit this letter in follow-up to numerous letters detailing the campaign of Palestinian terrorism launched in September 2000, which document the crimes for which the terrorists and their supporters must be held fully accountable.

I would be grateful if you would arrange to have the text of the present letter circulated as a document of the sixtieth session of the General Assembly, under agenda items 14 and 108.

(Signed) Dan Gillerman
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

**General Assembly
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General Assembly
Sixtieth session
Agenda items 14 and 108

Security Council
Sixtieth year

The situation in the Middle East

Measures to eliminate international terrorism

**Identical letters dated 5 December 2005 from the
Permanent Representative of Israel to the United Nations
addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of
the Security Council**

I am writing to draw your urgent attention to yet another horrific terrorist attack perpetuated against Israel.

At least five people were murdered and more than 55 wounded when a 21-year old Palestinian terrorist associated with the Islamic Jihad terrorist organization detonated himself, at 11.30 a.m. this morning, in a crowded area outside of the Hasharon shopping mall in the city of Netanya.

Security personnel identified the bomber prior to the attack and prevented him from entering the mall and creating greater devastation. This is the second terrorist attack that the Islamic Jihad terrorist organization has perpetrated at this shopping mall in the last six months.

These heinous terrorist attacks are unacceptable for any two peoples in the pursuit of peace. Israel is dedicated to advancing the peace process, as demonstrated by our disengagement from the Gaza Strip and parts of the West Bank, as well as the Rafah border crossing agreement. Yet, we have not seen any similar commitment from the Palestinian leadership. Netanya illustrates that mere condemnations are not enough. The Palestinian Authority must show its resolve through action, not words.

The first phase in the Road Map calls for the dismantling of terrorist organizations and elimination of the terrorist infrastructure. Thus far, the Palestinian Authority has displayed passivity vis-à-vis terrorist organizations. It has failed to reign in these groups, despite its international obligations. It has failed to take any effective strategy to combat terrorism. These horrific attacks remain the largest obstacle to peace. The onus now lies on the Palestinians to act. They have the capability. Yet they must show the resolve.



Furthermore, Member States in the region continue to finance and host Islamic Jihad and other terrorist organizations in their territories. This conduct contradicts international law and severely endangers the stability of the region.

Excellency, Israel urges the international community to reaffirm, in clear and certain terms, its absolute intolerance of terrorism and the aiding and/or sheltering of terrorist organizations. Israel also urges the international community to require the Palestinian Authority to immediately combat Palestinian terrorism and fulfil its international obligations.

I should be grateful if you would arrange to have the text of the present letter circulated as a document of the sixtieth session of the General Assembly, under agenda items 14 and 108.

(Signed) Dan Gillerman
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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**Letter dated 30 November 2005 from the Secretary-General
addressed to the President of the Security Council**

I have the honour to inform the members of the Security Council that the authorities of the Central African Republic have advised my Representative that they would like the United Nations Peacebuilding Support Office in the Central African Republic (BONUCA) to continue to assist them in their efforts towards building lasting peace, following the restoration of constitutional order in their country.

President François Bozizé has stressed the need for greater involvement on the part of the international community in view of the major post-election challenges facing the Central African Republic, while acknowledging that the primary responsibility for improving the population's living conditions rests with his Government. It should be noted that President Bozizé recently suspended three Government Ministers suspected of corrupt practices, after a census was conducted to determine the number of civil servants and State officials in active service.

Considering that the prospects for lasting stability in the Central African Republic are more encouraging than ever, I recommend that the mandate of BONUCA be extended from 1 January to 31 December 2006. For the first time since the establishment of BONUCA, conditions conducive to peacebuilding are in place. The renewal of the mandate of BONUCA would enable it to help the Central African Republic in its efforts to build on the success of its recent elections. Support from BONUCA, particularly in the areas of strengthening political dialogue and promoting the rule of law, will help to create a climate conducive to reconstruction and development. It will also be essential for the pursuit of the reforms that the Government intends to undertake.

The upsurge in cross-border banditry and the proliferation of weapons in the subregion have increased insecurity in the Central African Republic and are hindering its economic recovery. The Central African authorities, in concertation with the neighbouring countries, have requested BONUCA and my Representative to serve as facilitators in their search for a common solution to these threats, considering that no significant progress can be achieved in the political, social and economic areas unless security is restored.

BONUCA carries out these new subregional responsibilities in addition to the activities it has been undertaking to assess the impact of developments in neighbouring countries on the Central African Republic, and vice versa (see S/PRST/2004/39). BONUCA will continue to work closely with subregional



partners, including the Central African Economic and Monetary Community, the Economic Community of Central African States and the CEMAC Multinational Force.

In view of these additional responsibilities and the encouraging developments occurred recently, I intend to raise the rank of my Representative in the Central African Republic to that of Special Representative, at the Assistant Secretary-General level, to enable him to continue to provide United Nations support to the efforts of the Central African Republic and the neighbouring countries towards building lasting stability.

I should be grateful if you would bring this letter to the attention of the members of the Security Council.

(Signed) Kofi A. Annan



Security Council

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Letter dated 2 December 2005 from the President of the Security Council addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to inform you that your letter dated 30 November 2005 (S/2005/758) concerning your recommendation to extend the mandate of the United Nations Peacebuilding Support Office in the Central African Republic from 1 January to 31 December 2006, and your intention to raise the rank of your Representative in the Central African Republic to that of Special Representative, at the Assistant Secretary-General level, has been brought to the attention of the members of the Security Council. They take note of the recommendation and the intention expressed in your letter.

(Signed) Emyr Jones Parry
President of the Security Council

